

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-5, 8-18, 21-32, 35-46, 49-56 and 59-79 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 14, 27, 41 and 55 are independent claims.

Telephone Interview with Examiner

The undersigned Applicant's representative had telephone interviews with Examiner on June 1, 2004 and June 2, 2004. An agreement was reached that the 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 Declaration and related Exhibits filed on October 31, 2003 are effective to remove Brown et al. ("Brown-1", U.S. Patent No. 6,356,908) as a prior art reference.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103(a)

Claims 1-5, 8-18, 21-32, 35-46, 49-56, 59, 61-62, 64-65, 67-68, 70-71 and 73-79 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Malik et al. ("Malik", U.S. Patent No. 6,023,701) in view of Brown et al. ("Brown-1", U.S. Patent No. 6,356,908) and Brown et al. ("Brown-2", U.S. Patent No. 6,278,448). Claims 60, 63, 66, 69, and 72 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Malik in view of Brown-1 and Brown-2 and further in view of Gennaro et al. ("Gennaro", U.S. Patent No. 5,742,768). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

As indicated in the foregoing *Telephone Interview with Examiner* section, Brown-1 cannot be used as a prior art reference to reject the pending claims. Accordingly, Claims 1-5, 8-18, 21-32, 35-46, 49-56 and 59-79 are allowable, and a timely Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of
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